

Application No. 10/783,371
Response to Office Action

Customer No. 01933

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) An image printing apparatus
comprising:

an image printing means for printing forming section in
which an image is formed based on the basis of image data;

5 a memory which stores at least one message and detailed
storage means for storing information concerning details of a at
least one said message; for operating said image printing
apparatus; and

10 display means for displaying the message and for, when a
message for which the information concerning the details of the
message is stored in said storage means is displayed, displaying
identification information which indicates that the details of
the message can be displayed

15 a display section which displays a message and a setting
window for setting at least one condition for formation of the
image;

a control section which controls the display section; and
an operating section including a help key which is operable
by a user to instruct the display section to display a help
20 message thereon;

wherein if the message displayed by the display section
corresponds to the detailed information, the display section

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25 displays identification information, which indicates that the
detailed information corresponding to the message is available
for display, together with the message;

wherein the control section causes the display section to
display the detailed information of the message as the help
message if the help key is operated while the identification
information is displayed on the display section; and

30 wherein the control section causes the display section to
display detailed information concerning the setting window as the
help message if the help key is operated while the identification
information is not displayed on the display section.

2. (Currently Amended) An The image forming apparatus
according to of claim 1, wherein ~~said apparatus further comprises~~
~~control means for causing said display means to display the~~
~~message, said storage means stores the information concerning the~~
5 ~~details of the message in correspondence with information~~
~~concerning the message, and said control means~~ the control
section recognizes whether or not the detailed information
concerning ~~the details of the message~~ is stored in said ~~storage~~
~~means~~ memory, when causing controlling said display means ~~to~~
10 display section to display the message. ~~, and causes said display~~
~~means to display identification information together with the~~
~~message, when recognizing that the information is stored.~~

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3. (Currently Amended) ~~An~~ The image forming apparatus
according to of claim 2, wherein said ~~storage means~~ memory stores
~~corresponding~~ correspondence information which indicates that the
detailed information concerning the ~~details of the~~ message is
5 stored in correspondence with the ~~information concerning the~~
message, and said control means section recognizes ~~on the basis~~
~~of the corresponding information~~ whether or not the detailed
information concerning the ~~details of the~~ message is stored in
said ~~storage means~~ memory based on the correspondence
10 information.

4. (Currently Amended) ~~An~~ The image forming apparatus
according to of claim 2, wherein said ~~apparatus further comprises~~
~~operating means having a help key which is operated by a user to~~
~~instruct said display means to display a help message, said~~
5 control means section changes display contents on said display
~~means~~ section when said operating means section is operated, ~~7~~
~~and the identification information is information for identifying~~
~~each of a plurality of messages displayed by said designating~~
~~means as a message for which whether or not the information~~
10 ~~concerning the details of the message can be displayed on said~~
~~display means.~~

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Claims 5-7 (Canceled).

8. (Currently Amended) ~~An~~ The image forming apparatus
~~according to of~~ claim 7 1, wherein said ~~storage means~~ memory
stores the detailed information concerning the setting window in
correspondence with ~~the~~ information concerning the setting
5 window, and said control ~~means~~ determines section recognizes
whether or not the detailed information concerning the setting
window is stored in said ~~storage means~~ memory, when the help key
is operated while the identification information is not displayed
on said display ~~means~~ section, and ~~causes~~ controls said display
10 ~~means~~ section to display the detailed information concerning the
setting window, when ~~determining~~ it is recognized that the
detailed information concerning the setting window is stored in
said ~~storage means~~ memory.

9. (Currently Amended) ~~An~~ The image forming apparatus
~~according to of~~ claim 5 1, wherein the message and the details ~~of~~
detailed information concerning the message ~~are~~ respectively
comprise an operation instruction for the user and details of the
5 operation instruction, ~~respectively~~, and said control ~~means~~
section ~~causes~~ controls said display ~~means~~ section to display the
details of the operation instruction when the help key is

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operated while the identification information is displayed
together with the operation instruction on said display means
10 ~~section. together with the operation instruction for the user.~~

10. (Currently Amended) ~~An~~ The image forming apparatus
according to of claim 5 1, wherein the message and the details of
detailed information concerning the message are respectively
comprise a message stating that image printing cannot be started
5 and details indicating that the image printing forming cannot be
started, ~~respectively,~~ and said control means ~~causes~~ section
controls said display means section to display the details
indicating that the image printing forming cannot be started,
when the help key is operated while the identification
10 information is displayed together with the message stating that
the image forming cannot be started on said display means
section. ~~together with the message stating that the image~~
~~printing cannot be started.~~

11. (Currently Amended) An image printing apparatus
comprising:

an image printing means for printing forming section in
which an image is formed based on ~~the basis of~~ image data;
5 ~~operating means operated by a user,~~

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a memory which stores a message for indicating that image formation cannot be started and detailed information concerning the message;

10 a display section which displays the message, when the image formation cannot be started, and a setting window for setting at least one condition for formation of the image; means for changing display contents when said operating means is operated; and

15 a control means for controlling said display means, section which controls the display section; and

an operating section including a help key which is operable by a user to instruct the display section to display a help message thereon;

20 wherein said operating means includes a help key for selecting a help function, and when the help key is operated while the message indicating that the image formation cannot be started is displayed on the display section, said control means causes section controls said display means section to display details indicating that image printing cannot be started the
25 detailed information concerning the message as the help message, and when the help key is operated while a the message stating that image printing indicating that the image formation cannot be started cannot be started is not displayed on said display means section, said control section controls the display section

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30 to display detailed information concerning the setting window as
the help message.

12. (Currently Amended) An image printing apparatus
comprising:

an image printing means for printing forming section in
which an image is formed based on the basis of image data;

5 operating means operated by a user;

a memory which stores a message that includes an operating
instruction for a user and detailed information concerning the
operating instruction;

10 a display section which displays the message and a setting
window for setting at least one condition for formation of the
image; means for changing display contents when said operating
means is operated; and

a control means for controlling said display means; section
which controls the display section; and

15 an operating section including a help key which is operable
by the user to instruct the display section to display a help
message thereon;

20 wherein said operating means includes a help key for
selecting a help function; and said control means causes said
display means to display details of an instruction operation for

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the ~~user~~, when the help key is operated while the message
indicating that includes the operation instruction for the user
is displayed on said display means section, said control section
controls the display section to display the detailed information
25 of the operating instruction as the help message; and
wherein when the help key is operated while the message that
includes the operation instruction is not displayed on the
display section, the control section controls the display section
to display detailed information concerning the setting window as
30 the help message.

13. (Currently Amended) An image printing apparatus
comprising:

an image printing means for printing forming section in
which an image is formed based on the basis of image data;
5 operating means operated by a user;
a memory which stores at least one message and detailed
information concerning at least one said message;
a display means for displaying a section which displays a
message and a setting window for setting a at least one condition
10 for formation of the image; together with a message;
storage means for storing information concerning details of
the message; and

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~~a control means for controlling said display means; section~~
~~which controls the display section; and~~

15 ~~an operating section including a help key which is operable~~
~~by a user to instruct the display section to display a help~~
~~message thereon;~~

~~wherein said operating means includes a help key for~~
~~selecting a help function, and said control means causes said~~
20 ~~display means to display the details of the message, if~~
~~information concerning the details of the message corresponding~~
~~to when the detailed information concerning the message displayed~~
~~on said display means section is stored in said storage means~~
~~memory, said control section controls the display section to~~
25 ~~display the detailed information concerning the message as the~~
~~help message when the help key is operated, and causes~~

~~wherein when no detailed information concerning the message~~
~~displayed on the display section is stored in the memory, the~~
~~control section controls said display means section to display~~
30 ~~details of the setting window if information concerning the~~
~~details of the message corresponding to the message displayed~~
~~on said display means is not stored in said storage means~~
~~detailed information concerning the setting window as the help~~
~~message.~~

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14. (Currently Amended) An image printing apparatus
comprising:

~~an image printing means for printing forming section in~~
~~which an image is formed on a sheet based on the basis of image~~
5 ~~data; [[,]]~~

~~a control means section~~ for controlling operation of said
image printing apparatus; [[,]]

~~an operating means for allowing the section via which a user~~
~~to perform performs an input operation; [[,]] and~~

10 ~~a display means section~~ for changing a display window in
accordance with a key input; [[,]]

wherein said operating ~~means section~~ includes a help key for
allowing the user to select a help function, and said control
~~means section~~ controls said display ~~means section~~ to display
15 ~~details detailed information~~ indicating that image printing
~~formation~~ cannot be started, when the help function is selected
by the help key while said display ~~means section~~ is displaying
information indicating that the image printing ~~formation~~ cannot
be started.

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15. (Currently Amended) An image printing apparatus
comprising:

~~an image printing means for printing forming section in~~
~~which an image is formed on a sheet based on the basis of image~~
5 ~~data; [[,]]~~

~~a control means section for controlling operation of said~~
~~image printing apparatus; [[,]]~~

~~an operating means for allowing the section via which a user~~
~~to perform performs an input operation; [[,]] and~~

10 ~~a display means section for changing a display window in~~
~~accordance with a key input; [[,]]~~

~~wherein said operating means section includes a help key for~~
~~allowing the user to select a help function, and said control~~
~~means section controls said display means section to display~~
15 ~~details detailed information of an operation instruction for the~~
~~user, when the help function is selected by the help key while~~
~~said display means section is displaying information for the~~
~~operation instruction for the user.~~

16. (Currently Amended) An image printing apparatus
comprising:

~~an image printing means for printing forming section in~~
~~which an image is formed on a sheet based on the basis of image~~
5 ~~data; [[,]]~~

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a control means section for controlling operation of said image printing apparatus; [[,]]

an operating means for allowing the section via which a user to perform performs an input operation; [[,]] and

10 a display means section for changing a display window in accordance with a key input; [[,]]

wherein said operating ~~means~~ section includes a help key for allowing the user to select a help function, and said control ~~means~~ section controls said display ~~means~~ section to display
15 identification information for ~~allowing the user to identify~~ respectively identifying each of a plurality of messages displayed on said display ~~means~~ section as a message for which ~~whether or not details of the message can be displayed through~~ are available for display via the help function.

Claims 17-19 (Canceled).

20. (New) A display control method for an image forming apparatus including a memory, a display section and an operating section including a help key which is operable by a user to instruct the display section to display a help message, said
5 method comprising:

controlling the display section to display details of a message, which indicates that image formation cannot be started,

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as the help message, when the help key is operated while the message is displayed on the display section; and

10 controlling the display section to display detailed information concerning a setting window, which is used for setting at least one condition for formation of an image, as the help message, when the help key is operated while the message indicating that the image formation cannot be started is not
15 displayed on the display section.

21. (New) A display control method for an image forming apparatus including a memory, a display section and an operating section including a help key which is operable by a user to instruct the display section to display a help message, said
5 method comprising:

controlling the display section to display details of an operation instruction for the user as the help message, when the help key is operated while a message that includes the operation instruction for the user is displayed on the display section; and

10 controlling the display section to display detailed information concerning a setting window, which is used for setting at least one condition for formation of an image, as the help message, when the help key is operated while the message that includes the operation instruction is not displayed on the
15 display section.

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22. (New) A display control method for an image forming apparatus including a memory, a display section and an operating section including a help key which is operable by a user to instruct the display section to display a help message, said
5 method comprising:

displaying a message together with identification information indicating that detailed information concerning the message are available for display, when the detailed information concerning the displayed message is stored in the memory;

10 controlling the display section to display the detailed information concerning the message as the help message when the help key is operated while the identification information is displayed on the display section; and

15 controlling the display section to display detailed information concerning a setting window, which is used for setting at least one condition for formation of an image, as the help message, when the help key is operated while the identification information is not displayed on the display section.